

**BOARD OF CERTIFICATION OF OPERATORS OF
PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY TREATMENT AND PUBLIC WATER
SUPPLY TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION FACILITIES**

(Pursuant to Title 23, Chapter 65 of the RIGLs)

MINUTES March 21, 2008

In Attendance:

Board Members:

Don Iannazzi	Bob Bozikowski
June Swallow	Mike Covellone
Mario Carlino	Patrick Hughes

Others: Dana McCants Derisier

Meeting was called to order by Mike Covellone, Chairperson at 10:00 AM.

1. Don Iannazzi moved that the encumbered officers be re-elected to their current positions. Motion by Don Iannazzi. Motion second by Mario Carlino. Motion carried.
2. Don Iannazzi moved to amend the January 11, 2008 minutes to replace the word “include” with the word “exclude” for Mr. Descoteaux’s request for a Distribution 3 Full License. Due to his job title and description of his duties, this request needed further review by the Board. Motion by Don Iannazzi. Motion second by Mike Covellone. Motion carried.
3. The Board reviewed and approved the consent agenda. Motion by Don Iannazzi. Motion second by Mario Carlino. Motion carried.

The following items were on the consent agenda:

- The Board reviewed and approved the applications for April 2008 treatment and distribution exams.

The Board approved the requests for full certification by the following individuals as all have met mandatory experience requirements:

- Steve Kenyon DO Class 1 Certification Newport Water Dept.
- Alan Razukiewicz DO Class 3 Certification Pawtucket Water Supply Board
- Wadsworth Fyler, Sr. DOVSS Certification E. Searles Ball Memorial Housing
- Barbara McCool DOVSS Certification E. Searles Ball Memorial Housing

The Board reviewed and approved the following course requests:

- “Harmful Algal Blooms: Cyanobacteria and Their Toxins”, AWWA webcast, request by Susan Rabideau, RIDOH approved for 2.0 TCH’s.
- “Disinfection of Pipelines and Storage Facilities”, AWWA webcast, request by Susan Rabideau, RIDOH approved for 1.5 TCH’s.

4. The Board reviewed and approved the request from John Duchesneau to take the Grade 4 Full Distribution Certification Exam. Motion by Mario Carlino. Motion second by Mike Covellone. Motion carried.
5. The Board reviewed the request from Alan Brodd to take the Grade 3 Full Distribution Certification Exam. Mr. Brodd will be allowed to take the Distribution 3 Certification Exam. However, if Mr. Brodd obtains a passing grade on the Distribution 3 Certification Exam, the status of the Distribution 3 Certification would be Operator In Training. As determined by the Board, Mr. Brodd does not have the necessary experience to have a full license status at this time. Motion by June Swallow. Motion second by Patrick Hughes. Motion carried.
6. The Board reviewed and approved the request from Joseph Costa to take the Grade 4 Full Treatment Certification Exam. However, the Board discussed that water system superintendents should direct operators to take college courses that are relevant and applicable to operator duties. The Board voted on this issue with a 4:1 approval of the request with June Swallow voting not to approve the request. Motion by Don Iannazzi. Motion second by Mario Carlino. Motion carried.
7. The Board reviewed and denied the request from Hugo DeAscentis to take the Grade 4 Full Treatment Certification Exam. Don Iannazzi stated that Mr. DeAscentis does not have two years full-time experience as an operator, as stated in Section (7.10.2) of the Operator Certification Regulations. Moreover, working in a laboratory does not qualify as operator experience. The Board recommends that Mr. DeAscentis be allowed to take any of the Treatment Exams, levels 1, 2 or 3 with an Operator In Training status upon obtaining a passing grade. Motion by June Swallow. Motion second by Mario Carlino. Motion carried.
8. The Board reviewed the request from Edward Rudegeair, Eleanor Slater/Zambarano Hospital for provisional certification. June Swallow informed the Board that she granted provisional certification to Greg Cunningham, as stated in Section (8.5.1) of the Operator Certification Regulations up to the date of this meeting. Mr. Cunningham is currently an operator at Eleanor Slater/Zambarano Hospital and has a Treatment 1 Full Certification. Mr. Rudegeair's request is for provisional certification for Mr. Cunningham. However, the Board discussed the possible upcoming retirement of Mr. Cunningham, which would leave a single operator at this system, Joseph Gonyea. Mr. Gonyea has a Distribution 1 Full Certification and will be taking the Treatment 2 Exam on April 17, 2008. The Board discussed the status of Mr. Gonyea's Distribution 1 Full Certification if he obtained a passing grade. Since there were similar items to be discussed in agenda items 12 and 13, June Swallow moved to end this discussion and continue the discussion in agenda items 12 and 13. Motion by June Swallow. Motion second by Don Iannazzi. Motion carried.
9. The Board reviewed and approved the request from Stephen Hogle to renew his Grade 3 Distribution Full Certification. With much discussion the Board allowed him to renew his certification, even though Mr Hogle has not working at a water system for 1½ years during the three (3) year renewal cycle. The Board discussed the interpretation of Section (11.2) of the Operator Certification Regulations, in which the operator has to be actively working in the area of his/her certification for at least twenty (20%) of the time to renew his/her certification. Don Iannazzi stated that Mr. Hogle should not be able to renew his certification because he has not been working in his area of certification for 1½ years and currently; he is not working at a water system. Bob Bozikowski stated that the intent of the regulations regarding certification renewal credits and percent of time working at a water system is based on the three (3) year renewal cycle and not based on the operator's current working status. As interpreted from the regulations, Mr. Hogle has met the requirements of working in his area of certification for twenty (20%) of the time during the three (3) year renewal cycle. However, if Mr. Hogle does not obtain a employment at a water system working in his area of

certification in his next renewal period, he will not be able to renew his certification. Motion by Patrick Hughes. Motion second by Mario Carlino. Motion carried.

10. The Board reviewed and approved the requests of the following White Water, Inc. contract operators for reciprocity for RI Full Certifications:

- Thomas Cutler Grade 3 Distribution & Grade 4 Treatment
Motion by June Swallow. Motion second by Mario Carlino. Motion carried.
- Robert Sullivan Grade 2 Distribution & Grade 2 Treatment
Motion by June Swallow. Motion second by Mario Carlino. Motion carried.
- Michael Snedeker Grade 3 Distribution & Grade 3 Treatment
Motion by June Swallow. Motion second by Mario Carlino. Motion carried.
- Erick Jenson Grade 2 Distribution
Motion by June Swallow. Motion second by Patrick Hughes. Motion carried.
- Carlos Santa Grade 1 Distribution & Grade 1 Treatment
Motion by June Swallow. Motion second by Mario Carlino. Motion carried.

11. The Board reviewed and denied the requests of the following White Water, Inc. contract operators for reciprocity for RI Operator In Training (OIT) Certifications:

- David Larson Grade 1 Treatment OIT
Motion by Mario Carlino. Motion second by June Swallow. Motion carried.
- Erick Jenson Grade 1 Treatment OIT
Motion by Mario Carlino. Motion second by June Swallow. Motion carried.

As stated in Section 8.2.1 of the Regulations, the Board can grant only Full Certifications for reciprocity requests. Motion by Mario Carlino. Motion second by Patrick Hughes. Motion carried.

12. The Board reviewed and approved the request from Thomas Degnan, Pawtucket Water Supply Board, for 7.5 credits for the Train_Rite Services, Inc. course, Excavation & Equipment Training at the Pawtucket Water Supply Board. Motion by Bob Bozikowski. Motion second by Don Iannazzi. Motion carried.

12. The Board reviewed and approved the request from Shawn Carr for a Grade 1 Full Distribution Certification. There were questions regarding the date of his Full status. With a great deal of discussion regarding Sections (7.5.1) and (1.18) of the Operator Certification Regulations, the Board interpreted the regulations as the hire date being considered the date used to determine the Full status of an operator irrespective of when the operator passed the exam. Thus, the Board granted Mr. Carr a Grade 1 Full Distribution Certification as he has met the six (6) months full-time experience as an operator at the Pawtucket Water Supply Board as of April 1, 2008 based on his hire date of October 1, 2007. Motion by Don Iannazzi. Motion second by Patrick Hughes. Motion carried.

13. The Board reviewed and approved a Full status for the Grade 1 Distribution exam applicants upon obtaining a passing grade on the exam. The following operators have met the six (6) months experience requirement, as stated in Section (7.5.1) of the Operator Certification Regulations and based on the discussion in previous agenda item 12:

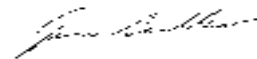
- Robert Sauro, Jr.
- Russell Carpenter
- Joshua Ponte
- James Baccari, Jr.
- James Vieira
- William Wilson

However, the Board secretary will send a letter to the water system superintendents asking for their cooperation in adhering to Sections (4.3) and (5.3) of the Operator Certification Regulations as some of their operators were not certified within the required year. Motion by June Swallow. Motion second by Patrick Hughes. Motion carried.

14. The Board addressed the request from Edward Rudegeair, Eleanor Slater/Zambarano Hospital for provisional certification, as discussed in agenda item 8. Based upon the decisions made in agenda items 12 and 13 with regard to the Operator Certification Regulations, Mr. Gonyea has experience but he does not have a Treatment certification to date. Therefore, the discussion regarding Full status would not apply to his situation. However, the Board granted Mr. Cunningham provisional certification until the next meeting and Mr. Rudegeair will need to provide monthly updates on the progress in obtaining a certified operator to June Swallow, the Board secretary. Motion by June Swallow. Motion second by Don Iannazzi. Motion carried.
15. The Board reviewed and approved the request from Yousri Fam to renew Grade 4 Treatment Full Certification with college credits. Based on Section (12.14) of the Regulations, the Thermodynamics II course was approved for 45 credits and the Hydraulics-Pneumatics course was approved for 60 credits. However, the Board secretary will inform Mr. Fam that will need to adhere to Section (12.15) of the Regulations as to obtain approval from the Board before the start of the course. Motion by Bob Bozikowski. Motion second by Don Iannazzi. Motion carried.
15. The Board reviewed and discussed the 2008—H 7998 An Act Relating To Businesses and Professions – Underground Utility Contractors Section 1. Title 5 of the General Laws entitled “Businesses and Professions”. The Board secretary, June Swallow will draft an opposition letter that will be sent to the Chair of the House Corporations Committee. The letter will inform the Committee that the Board is opposed to requiring a second state license for public water system operators, as they are already licensed by the Board with the assistance of the Department of Health under Chapter 23-65. In addition, H7998 should be revised to point out that public water system agents and those regulated by the Department of Health will be exempt from the provisions in the chapter and that “underground utility contractor” does not refer to those licensed under Chapter 23-65. Ultimately, there are regulations already in place to address issues involving drinking water. The Board Chair, Mike Covellone will sign the letter. Motion by June Swallow. Motion second by Don Iannazzi. Motion carried.

Don Iannazzi moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion by Don Iannazzi. Motion second by Bob Bozikowski. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:29PM.



June Swallow, P.E. Secretary